

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 120094

R 121400Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4149

INFO CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

COMUSMACTHAI

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 PHNOM PENH 13840

EXDIS

SECSTATE PASS SECDEF FOR ACTION; NSC AND CJCS FOR INFO

SECSTATE PASS AID

SAIGON ALSO FOR USDAO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MASS, EAID, CB, VS

SUBJECT: CAMBODIAN RESUPPLY/ THIRD UPDATE

REF: (A) PHNOM PENH 12872/211620Z NOV 73

(B) PHNOM PENH 13340/021350Z DEC 73

1. THIS IS THE THIRD UP DATE OF THE CAMBODIAN RESUPPLY  
EFFORT. LIKE REFTELS, IT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A FULL  
PROGRESS REPORT BUT FOCUSES ON SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS  
AND ACTIONS WE BELIEVE ARE REQUIRED.

PART I: AMMUNITION

2. SINCE LAST UPDATE, AN ADDITIONAL \$9.5 MILLION AMMO  
FUNDING HAS BEEN PROVIDED. AN ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT  
FOR \$6.5 MILLION WAS IDENTIFIED TO ACHIEVE A 30 DAY LEVEL

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AND PROVIDE SUPPLY CONTINUITY THROUGH END OF 2ND QUARTER.

THIS ADDITIONAL FUNDING IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO 20 DECEMBER 1973. CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL STORAGE CAPACITY IN KANTAUK DEPOT IS PROGRESSING, BERMS FOR ELEVEN MODULAR PADS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED AND THE REQUIRED LATERITE BASE REMAINS TO BE EMPLACED. THESE ELEVEN PADS ARE EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR USE BY 31 DECEMBER 73 AND WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT CAPACITY FOR STORAGE OF 30 DAYS SUPPLY. IT APPEARS NOW THAT THE OPTIMISM REFLECTED IN LAST UPDATE WITH REGARD TO AMMUNITION ASSETS IN THAILAND AND AVAILABILITY OF TUGS AND BARGES MAY HAVE BEEN PREMATURE. SHORTAGE OF 5,56 MM AMMO IS NOW CRITICAL WITH AN OUTSTANDING REQUIREMENT FOR 24 MILLION ROUNDS WHICH APPARENTLY CANNOT BE FILLED FROM EXISTING USARSUPTHAI ASSETS. ALSO, ALSO, CURRENT INDICATIONS ARE THERE MAY BE A 1,000 TON SHORTFALL IN SURFACE LIFT CAPABILITY FOR 38 DECEMBER CONVOY.

3. THUS, ACTIONS WE NOW BELIEVE REQUIRED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) PROVIDE \$6.5 MILLION ADDITIONAL AMMO FUNDING BY 20 DECEMBER AND INSURE AVAILABILITY OF ANOTHER \$5 MILLION PRIOR TO 2 JANUARY 1974 TO COVER 1ST JANUARY CFW.

(B) TAKE EARLY ACTION TO ESTABLISH AMMUNITION SUPPORT BASE IN RVN AS DISCUSSED IN PREVIOUS UPDATE MESSAGE (REFTEL B).

(C) AUTHORIZE MAP-CB TO DRAW ON ARVN STOCKS FOR THOSE ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE PROVIDED FROM THAILAND STOCKS FOR 28 DECEMBER CONVOY, OR TAKE ACTION TO PROVIDE REQUIRED MUNITIONS FROM OTHER THEATER OR CONUS DEPOT STOCKS.

(D) AUTHORIZE THE BUILD-UP TO 38 DOS BY MID-FEBRUARY AS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED TO REDUCE FUTURE DEPENDENCY ON AIRLIFT (REFTEL B).

(E) CONTINUE TO AUTHORIZE SUFFICIENT AIRLIFT ASSETS TO COMPENSATE FOR ANY SHORTFALL IN SURFACE LIFT CAPABILITY.

PART II PETROLEUM

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4. SIXTY DAYS' SUPPLY OF MILITARY POL, CIVILIAN FO AND IDO AND 30 DAYS' SUPPLY OF OTHER CIVILIAN BULK PETROLEUM PRODUCTS CONTINUES TO BE OUR OBJECTIVE.

(A) PROVISION OF CIVILIAN POL. AS OF DECEMBER 6, 1973, 38,077 CUBIC METERS OF POL REMAIN TO BE BROUGHT TO PHNOM PENH IN ORDER TO MEET THAT OBJECTIVE BY DECEMBER 31. THE PRODUCTS FOR WHICH DELIVERY IN DECEMBER IS REASONABLY ASSURED AMOUNT TO 6,650 CUBIC METERS, LEAVING AN OVERALL

SHORTAGE OF 31,427 CUBIC METERS. SHOULD THE SEVERE CONSUMPTION RESTRICTION AND RATIONING MEASURES REPORTED IN PHNOM PENH 13603/070905Z DEC 73 PROVE SUCCESSFUL, THE OVERALL SHORTAGE WOULD BE ONLY MINUS 14,357 CUBIC METERS. THE BREAKDOWN OF SHORTAGES BY PRODUCTS WITH THE CORRESPONDING AMOUNTS IF THE RATIONING SHOULD WORK ARE: MO -2,320 (1,800); KO -3,430 (3,430); ADO -15,430 (7,158); IDO -150 (PLUS 2,518); FO -8,580 (5,060).

AV FUELS ARE AT A REDUCED LEVEL, AND SHORTAGES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

JP-1 -188; AVGAS - 100 -1,278 AVGAS 115

-51. THE FOLLOWING FACTORS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN OUR ATTEMPTS TO SECURE DELIVERY OF THE BALANCE.

(B) AVAILABILITY OF BOTTOMS. TRANSPORT OF THE REMAINING POL REQUIRES INCREASING THE PRESENT FLEET OF EIGHT TANKERS. TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT, TELA KHMER ON DECEMBER 12, 1973 SIGNED A CONTRACT FOR THE SERVICES OF FOUR ADDITIONAL TANKERS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF ABOUT 5,000 CUBIC METERS, THE SERVICES TO START AS OF DECEMBER 15, 1973.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W  
----- 119590

R 121400Z DEC 73  
FM AVUMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4150  
INFO CINCPAC  
COMUSSAG  
COMUSMACTHAI  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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THE ADDITIONAL TANKERS ARE NEEDED TO ASSURE DELIVERY BY THE END OF DECEMBER OF THE PRODUCTS REQUIRED FOR THE BUILD-UP, IF THE PRODUCTS SHOULD BE FOUND. IN ANY CASE, WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SHELL NHA BE FACILITIES,

THE TANKERS WILL BE NEEDED TO ASSURE DELIVERY OF THE PRODUCTS UNDER THE EXISTING CONTRACTS AS THEY CAN BE PRESENTLY DELIVERED ONLY FROM SINGAPORE OR BANGKOK. THIS, IN TURN, MEANS EITHER MORE TANKERS OR LONGER TURN-AROUND OF THE CONVOYS.

(C) AVAILABILITY OF PRODUCTS FROM OIL COMPANIES.

THE AVAILABILITY OF THE PRODUCTS UNDER CONTRACT FROM SHELL AND CALTEX IN SINGAPORE AND FORM SUMMIT IN BANGKOK REMAINS UNCERTAIN EVEN THOUGH ALL THREE COMPANIES HAVE GIVEN PROMISES TO DO THEIR UTMOST TO DELIVER THEM. SAPHON SARASI, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY, AND THONN OUK, PRESIDENT-DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELAN/HMER, LEFT FOR SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA TO ATTEMPT TO FIND THE ADDITIONAL BULK PETROLEUM PRODUCTS NEEDED. THEIR EFFORT IN SINGAPORE AIRS AT FIRMING UP THE PROMISES BY SHELL AND CALTEX AND IN INDONESIA TO FIND ABOUT 6,000 CUBIC METERS OF MOGAS, PERHAPS AS MUCH AS 30,000 CUBIC METERS OF ADO AND 1,500 CUBIC METERS OF AVGAS-100. THESE SHOULD BE DELIVERED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN THE

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EARLY PART OF JANUARY. THE 30,000 CUBIC METERS OF ADO ARE TO MEET THE SHORTAGES OF ADO, IDO, AND FO. (ADO CAN BE SUBSTITUTED FOR THE LATTER TWO AND PROCUREMENT OF ONE PRODUCT WILL BE EASIER THAN OBTAINING SEPARATE AMOUNTS OF THREE.) THONN

OUK WAS ASLO TO STOP IN BANGKOK TO FIRM UP DELIVERIES WHICH SUMMIT IS OBLIGED TO DELIVER UNDER ITS CONTRACT AND TO OBTAIN IF POSSIBLE A PROMISE FOR ADDITIONAL ADVANCE DELIVERIES OF PRODUCTS UNDER THE CONTRACT.

(D) FUNDING. THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFICULTIES IN PAYING FOR THE PRODUCTS NOW UNDER CONTRACT OR TO BE CONTRACTED. THE FUNDS REQUIRED TO PAY SHELL AND CALTEX FOR AMOUNTS THEY ARE OBLIGED TO DELIVER UNDER THE CONTRACT ARE ALREADY RESERVED. ADDITIONAL FUNDS HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE BY AID/WASHINGTON AND LETTERS OF COMMITMENT HAV ALREADY BEEN ISSUED.

(E) PROVISION OF MILITARY POL  
NEGOTIATIONS BEING CONDUCTED BY DAO SAIGON WITH COMMERCIAL OIL FIRMS FOR THE PROVISION OF FANK POL APPEAR TO BE PROGRESSING WELL. MR. SIMMONS OF DAO SAIGON HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE GKR MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TO NEGOTIATE ON BEHALF OF THE FANK.

(F) MILITARY PAYBACK OF CIVILIAN POL  
JCS HAS STATED THAT IT IS WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF CINCPAC TO PAYBACK THE 5000 CUBIC METERS OF ADO OWNED BY FANK TO TELA KHMER. THE EXHAUSTION OF CIVILIAN ADO REQUIRES THAT THIS REPAYMENT BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO TRANSPORT 3600 CUBIC METERS OF ADO IF RELEASED PRIOR TO 20 DECEMBER 1973. THE TOTAL 5000 CUBIC METERS OF ADO

IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO 31 DECEMBER 1973. IF THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED,  
FAKK WILL HAVE PAID BACK TELA KHMER AND HAVE APPROXIMATELY  
67 DAYS OF ADO ON HAND. ALL OTHER MILITARY PRODUCTS  
WILL BE IN EXCESS OF 60 DAYS STOCKAGE AT 1 JANUARY  
1974.

5. THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE NOW REQUIRED:

(A) THE UNCERTAIN RESULTS OF GKR DISCUSSIONS WITH  
OIL COMPANIES UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF WASHINGTON'S  
EFFORT TO PERSUADE OIL COMPANIES TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL  
QUANTITIES OVER AND ABOVE CONTRACT AMOUNTS. WE ARE  
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PROVIDING YOU DETAILED SUGGESTIONS BY SEPTEL.  
(B) CINCPAC IS REQUESTED TO RELEASE 5,000 CUBIC METERS  
OF ADO AND ARRANGE EARLY DELIVERY OF THIS PRODUCT TO  
VUNG TAU.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ADDRESSES SHOWN SECTION 1.

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10  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W  
----- 111944  
R 121400Z DEC 73  
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4151  
INFO CINCPAC  
COMUSSAG  
COMUSMACTHAI  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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EXDIS

PART III. RICE

6. ON THE BASIS OF CURRENT STOCKS AND SCHEDULED ARRIVALS, WE PROJECT A 42-DAY SUPPLY IN CAMBODIA BY DECEMBER 31, 1973. WHILE THIS PROJECTION FALLS SHORT BY 3 DAYS OF THE 45-DAY TARGET, IT IS BASED ON AN INCREASED DAILY DISTRIBUTION IN PHNOM PENH OF 700 M/T RATHER THAN 650 M/T AND A MONTHLY CONSUMPTION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES OF 2,000 M/T INSTEAD OF THE PREVIOUS 1,800 M/T. SHOULD THESE TWO INCREASES NOT MATERIALIZE, THEN THE 45-DAY TARGET WILL BE EXCEEDED. WE PROJECT A 111-DAYS SUPPLY IN CAMBODIA BY JANUARY 31, 1974., AGAIN USING THE SAME DISTRIBUTION/CONCUMPTION RATES AS ABOVE. THE IMMEDIATE QUESTIONS RELATE TO GETTING SHIPMENTS UNLOADED EXPEDITIOUSLY IN PHNOM PENH AND RESOLVING AN ACUTE BUNKERING SITUATION IN SAIGON.

7. OUR REVISED ASSESSMENT OF RICE SUPPLIES EN ROUTE AND PROJECTED FOR CAMBODIA UNTIL THE END OF FEBRUARY TRANSLATES INTO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE FO MONTHLY ARRIVALS IN METRIC TONS:

DEC	JAN	FEB
SAIGON/MEKONG CONVOYS	32,400	44,400
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KG-SOM/ROUTE 4 8,100 27,700 20,500

8. THE DECEMBER AND JANUARY SCHEDULES FOR PHNOM PENH ARRIVALS CAN BE MET IF THE GKR IMPLEMENTS OUR RECOMMENDA-TIONS TO ENGAGE MORE CIVILIAN LABOR AND/OR NAVY RECRUITS TO WORK ON THE DOCKS AND TO ESTABLISH A NIGHT SHIFT AT THE PORT AND IN GOVERNMENT WAREHOUSES.

9. IT IS NOW ESTIMATED BY THE GKR THAT KOMPONG SOM CAN STOREAS MUCH AS 40,000 M/T OF RICE SPLIT EVENLY BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE WAREHOUSES. NEVERTHELESS, A MAJOR LOGISTICS PROBLEM LOOMS AHEAD IN THE EVENT THAT ROUTE 4 CONTINUES TO BE INTERDICITED BY THE ENEMY IN JANUARY; IN THAT EVENT RICE STORED IN KOMPONG SOM WILL HAVE TO BE RELOADED FOR MOVEMENT VIA THE MEKONG.

10. AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE MOST WORRISOME PROBLEM IS THAT OF BUNKERING IN SAIGON. AS REPORTED BY USAID/ SAIGON, TUGS ARE PRESENTLY BEING BUNKERED THERE UNDER THE ESSO CONTRACT WITH THE U.S. EMBASSY. CONTINUED SUPPLY OF RICE TO PHNOM PENH DEPENDS ON A READY SOURCE OF MARINE FUEL OIL AND DIESEL AT SAIGON.

11. ACTION REQUIRED: CONTINUING EFFORTS BY AID PHNOM PENH

AND SAIGON TO SECURE BUNKERING.  
ENDERS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ADDRESSEES REQUESTED ON SECTION ONE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 DEC 1973  
**Decapton Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decapton Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 7  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 73 PHNOM PENH 12872, 73 PHNOM PENH 13340  
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30 JUN 2005

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**TAGS:** MILI, MASS, EAID, CB, VS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005